

Meeting Minutes
Iowa Commission on Aging
By Conference Call

Thursday, June 10th, 2021 10:00am

<https://zoom.us/j/99125980187?pwd=ais4bmt0YUhQL2pKTE1XMzRZSkhSdz09>

Dial in: +1 312 626 6799 US Meeting ID: 991 2598 0187

Welcome and Call to Order

Chairman Jenkins called the meeting to order at 10:11 A.M.

Roll Call

Members Present

G. Willard Jenkins
Cindy Baddeloo
Carole Dunkin
Suzanne Heckenlaible
Steve Van Oort

*Representative Ann Meyer

Members Absent

Richard Motz
*Senator Craig Williams
*Representative Monica Kurth
*Senator Amanda Ragan

**Non-voting, Ex-officio members*

Others present:

Director Linda Miller, Assistant Director Brian Majeski, Marissa Patterson – Administrative Assistant, Angela Van Pelt – Ombudsman, , Linda Hildreth – IDA Team Lead, Dax Oberreuter – Public Information Officer and Legislative Liaison, Zach Rhein – RSVP Program Director, Shelly Sindt – Elderbridge AAA, Kelly Butts-Elston – Connections AAA, Mike Donohue – NEI3A, Becky Passman – Milestones AAA, Joel Olah – Aging Resources of Central Iowa, Cynthia Pederson – Compliance Officer, Kellie Elliott-Kapparos, Greg Zars, SS Peirs, Cara Ferch, Bob Welsh, Kristie Wiltgen, Ann Meyer, Kay Vanags, Patty Funero

Approve Agenda and Minutes

Chairman Jenkins called for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Commissioner Baddeloo motioned to approved the agenda as presented. Commissioner Dunkin seconded, motion carried by voice vote.

Chairman Jenkins called for a motion to approve the March Commission Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Heckenlaible motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Baddeloo seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Vote on New Chair

Current Chairman Jenkins stated that he would run for Chairman again if none of the other Commission members wanted the seat. Hearing none, Commissioner Baddeloo nominated Commissioner Willard Jenkins to remain as chairperson. Commissioner Heckenlaible seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Affirmative Action Report

Marissa Vance

Each year the Department sets goals pertaining to the data that the state gathers on employment with the State and it is rolled into the Affirmative Action report. Over the past year the Department has been hiring and ensuring that interview questions were changed for each position to ensure that specific essential function job qualities could be highlighted in the interview process. This upcoming year it is a Department goal to take a look at the job descriptions of all staff to ensure that the job descriptions reflect the actual job duties. Chairman Jenkins called for a motion to approve the Affirmative Action Report as written. Commissioner Baddeloo motioned to approve, Commissioner Heckenlaible seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

Area Agencies on Aging Area Plan Presentations

Zach Rhein/ AAA Directors

IDA staff member Zach Rhein introduced the Area Plans and stated that every four years are updated as it is written in Iowa Code.

Aging Resources of Central Iowa:

Executive Director Joel Olah presented Aging Resources of Central Iowa's Area Plan goals which included:

- Work with older Iowans, Iowans with disabilities, and caregivers as they fully engage and participate in their communities as they make informed decisions, and exercise self-determination and control about their independence, well-being, and health
- Enable older Iowans to remain in their own residence and community of choice
- Protect and enhance the rights; and prevent the abuse, neglect, and exploitation of older Iowans

Chairman Jenkins called for a motion to approve the Aging Resources of Central Iowa's Area Plan. Commissioner Baddeloo motioned to approve, Commissioner Heckenlaible seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

Connections Area Agency on Aging:

Executive Director Kelly Butts-Elston presented Connections Area Agency on Aging's Area Plan and the needs that were identified in their Public Service Area, which included:

- Finding, repairing and maintaining safe and affordable housing
- Innovating Congregate Meals as the traditional model is not longer attractive to aging Iowans
- Addressing the shortage of providers in the aging network for services such as homemaker, chore and respite
- Build upon the current Evidence Based Programs offered to help consumers make better choices about their health and independence
- Address the service gaps that consumers and caregivers face when residing in rural communities

Chairman Jenkins called for a motion to approve the Connections Area Agency on Aging's Area Plan.

Commissioner Baddeloo motioned to approve, Commissioner Dunkin seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

Elderbridge Area Agency on Aging:

Executive Director Shelly Sindt presented Elderbridge Area Agency on Aging's Area Plan and the priorities seen in the needs assessment and how the agency will rebuild their infrastructure, which included:

- Needs Assessment Survey Priorities:
 - Home Delivered Meals
 - Information and Assistance

- Congregate Meals
- Personal Care
- Behavioral Health Services
- Rebuilding Infrastructure
 - Focusing on rebuilding the essential service providers that were lost due to the pandemic
 - Filling in the service area gaps
 - Focusing on the Older Americans Act core services throughout their Public Service Area
 - Enhance messaging in the underserved communities through public relations and community engagement
 - Build a volunteer base across the Area Agency

Chairman Jenkins called for a motion to approve the Elderbridge Area Agency on Aging's Area Plan.

Commissioner Baddeloo motioned to approve, Commissioner Dunkin seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

Heritage Area Agency on Aging:

The Heritage Area Agency on Aging Area Plan is temporarily approved until the September 9th Commission Meeting. At which time, the Commission can approve the plan, approve the plan with conditions, or reject the plan. Chairman Jenkins called for a motion to temporarily approve the Area Plan. Commissioner Baddeloo motioned, Commissioner Dunkin seconded. The motioned carried by voice vote.

Milestones Area Agency on Aging:

Executive Director Becky Passman presented Milestones Area Agency on Aging's Area Plan goals which included:

- Older Iowans will participate in their communities, make informed decisions, and exercise self-determination and control about their independence, well-being, and health
- Older Iowans enabled to remain in their own residence and community of choice
- Protect and enhance the rights of older Iowans; prevent abuse, neglect, and exploitation

Chairman Jenkins called for a motion to approve the Milestones Area Agency on Aging's Area Plan. Commissioner Baddeloo motioned and Commissioner Heckenlaible seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging:

Executive Director Mike Donohue presented Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging's Area Plan goals which included:

- To keep the individuals in their Public Service Area informed
- To provide people in their Public Service Area with the services that they need
- To keep people safe

Chairman Jenkins called for a motion to approve the Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging's Area Plan.

Commissioner Baddeloo motioned, Commissioner Heckenlaible seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

For more information on the six Area Agencies on Aging Area Plans one can view them on the IDA website at <https://iowaaging.gov/>

Iowa Department on Aging State Plan

Zach Rhein

IDA staff member Zach Rhein presented the Iowa Department on Aging State Plan 2022-2025 Synopsis and went over the Department's identified goals which include:

- The Iowa Aging Network will support older Iowans, Iowans with disabilities age 18 and older, caregivers, and veterans as they make informed decisions and exercise self-determination and control about their independence, well-being, and health.

- The Iowa Aging Network will enable older Iowans to remain in, or return to, their own residence and community of choice through the availability of an access to high-quality home and community services and supports, including supports for families and caregivers.
- The Iowa Aging Network will protect and enhance the rights and prevent the abuse, neglect, and exploitation of older Iowans and Iowans with disabilities.

The strategies for how the Department will meet each of these goals over the next four years is laid out in the full state plan which can be found on the IDA website at <https://iowaaging.gov/>.

Chairman Jenkins called for a motion to approve the Iowa Department on Aging's State Plan. Commissioner Heckenlaible motioned, Commissioner Van Oort seconded and the motioned carried by voice vote.

Administrative Rules – Technical Change

Angela Van Pelt

House File 2389 made several changes to agency rulemaking requirements. In Section 10 it modified the requirements for waiver or variance of rules by agencies by striking references to variances. The proposed rule change Notice of Intended Actions brings the Department into compliance with the new code in Chapter 17A.

Chairman Jenkins called for a motion to approve the technical change in the Administrative Rules. Commissioner Heckenlaible motioned and Commissioner Baddeloo seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

Department Update

Director Miller

The Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman has a new Ombudsman, Angela Van Pelt. Angela will present at the next Commission Meeting in September. Federal funding is still coming which means new innovations and expansions are being created for the state. The focus of these initiatives is to make sure they are sustainable. The Department is hiring new staff and should have an updated Table of Organization by the September Commission Meeting.

The Department was awarded twelve AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) federal grant awards for the state. This program will engage volunteers 55 and older to solve problems in their communities. The goal is to have these volunteers helping the AAAs. The grant programs began on April 1, 2021. IDA is currently in the process of hiring staff to administer the program. Volunteers are expected to be serving in the early Fall 2021. Department staff are pretty much all back into the office and are hoping to be traveling to the Area Agencies on Aging by early Fall.

Legislative Update

Angela Van Pelt

The 2021 Legislative Session adjourned May 19, 2021. The HHS bill has not been signed yet, but that should be finalized in the near future. House File 839 with a focus on elder abuse was passed.

Announcements from the Commission

Commissioner Van Oort is interested in hosting the December Commission Meeting at the new Community Senior Center in Ankeny after it opens to the public.

Public Comment

Bob Welsh commented that he would like to see more statewide public relations campaigns to share more knowledge about the Area Agencies on Aging and how older Iowans can contact their AAA for more information.

The next commission meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2021 at 10am. Location TBD. Meeting in person or virtually will be sent out prior to the meeting.

Adjournment

Chairman Jenkins called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Baddeloo motioned and was seconded by Commissioner Dunkin. The motion carried by voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 1:23pm.

Randa J Miller
A. Michael Jenkins